

Holiday Gift Books

If you wish to purchase any holiday gift books, please let us know what you want and we can supply you at the very lowest rates. Next week we will publish a list of a few of the books which can be supplied from this office. Books for children and young people a specialty. Look for our announcement.

The Christmas Number

Beginning with this number there will be some changes in the paper, a rearrangement of the departments, and other improvements. It will be a *special* number, a real *Christmas* number, containing articles suited to the occasion. It will be issued and dated Thursday, December 21, 1900.

Editorial "Shorts"

When an order for books is sent to a publisher, only part of which he can fill at the time, the sender is likely to receive an invoice marked, "Shorts will follow." We can not say that of the "shorts" in our editorial departments, and probably the reader is not very particular whether they will "follow" or not. This is "moving week" for the Editor and his family, and usually at such a time one has neither time nor disposition to write editorials. Again just at this time we are busily engaged on the Quarterly for the first quarter of the new year, 1901, and for two weeks there will be very little time to spare for the editorial departments of the EVANGELIST. After the Quarterly is issued all the departments will be maintained as before.

A Twentieth Century Number

The first issue of the year 1901 will be a Twentieth Century Number, and will be dated January 4, 1901, the first number in the new century. It will be a special number, larger than the regular issue, illustrated, and contain original articles on the achievements of the Nineteenth Century, what we should accomplish during the first decade of the Twentieth Century, the missionary outlook for this coming century, the Brethren church in the next century, and many other articles of special interest to our people. Look for full announcement in next week's paper.

Purple and Gold

This is the name of the monthly college paper issued under the auspices of the Faculty of Ashland College. The price is 25 cts. a year, and in clubs of ten or more to one address 15 cts. The paper is devoted to the interest of education in general, and particularly to Ashland College. It represents all the different societies of the school, Literary, Scientific, Student's Volunteer Missionary, Christian Endeavor, etc. Besides these the paper will be a chronicle of the work and progress of the school, and will give special

attention to the subject of education and the higher life. Issued monthly except July and August.

Special Offer.—Any one sending us \$1.50 for the renewal of his subscription to the BRETHREN EVANGELIST on or before December 8, 1900, will receive one year's subscription to "Purple and Gold" free. This is a very liberal offer and gives you an opportunity to get two papers for one. Please remember that this offer will not be open beyond December 8, except to new subscribers. Renew at once, send us \$1.50 cash, and get "Purple and Gold" as a premium. The paper will also be given as a premium for one new subscription to the EVANGELIST.

Our Premium Offer

It has been thought wise to extend our offer to December 8. If you want the Life of D. L. Moody, send us \$1.75 on or before December 8. On that day the offer will close, except that the premium will be given for one new subscriber at any time until January 6, 1901. Please note below what we will send you for \$2.00:

1 The EVANGELIST one year,	\$1 00
2 Purple and Gold,	25
3 The Annual for 1901,	10
4 Life of D. L. Moody,	1 25
Total,	\$4 10

What, \$4.10 for \$2.00, yes, exactly so, hard to believe, but nevertheless true. Let no supporter of the institutions of the Brethren church hereafter complain that we have made no liberal premium offers. This offer is open to December 8, 1900, that is you may send your order at any time up to and including Saturday, December 8. A two dollar bill may be sent with perfect security if properly sealed in an envelope.

The President's Thanksgiving Proclamation

By the President of the United States of America:

A PROCLAMATION

It has pleased Almighty God to bring our nation in safety and honor thru another year. The works of religion and charity have everywhere been manifest. Our country, thru all its extent, has been blessed with abundant harvests. Labor and the great industries of the people have prospered beyond all precedent. Our commerce has spread over the world. Our power and influence in the cause of freedom and enlightenment have extended over distant seas and lands. The lives of our official representatives and many of our people in China have been marvelously preserved. We have been generally exempt from pestilence and other great calamities; and even the tragic visitation which overwhelmed the city of Galveston made evident the sentiments of sympathy and Christian charity by virtue of which we are one united people.

Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, President of the United States, do hereby appoint and set apart Thursday, the 29th of November next, to be observed by all the people of the United States, at home or abroad, as a day of thanksgiving and praise to him who holds the nations in the hollow of his hand. I recommend that they gather in their several places of worship and devoutly give him thanks for the prosperity wherewith he has endowed us, for seedtime and harvest, for the valor, devotion and humanity of our armies and navies, and, for all his benefits to us as individuals and as a nation, and that they humbly pray for the continuance of his Divine favor, for concord and amity with other nations, and for righteousness and peace in all our ways.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this 29th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-fifth.

[Seal]

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

By the President:

JOHN HAY, Secretary of State.

Contributions

BE YE THANKFUL!

LOUIS S. BAUMAN.

Holidays are memorials that keep us in mind of the great movements of the world's history. Two hundred and eighty years ago, a little exiled band of Hollanders were praying for one little spot on the great wide world where they might kneel to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. The finger of God pointed them westward, across the rolling sea, to the wild, new world, beyond the setting sun. With bleeding hearts and streaming eyes they bade "good-bye" to the old shores of the home land, and never to return, with face to the West, they sailed on, on, and on,—

"And the heavy night hung dark
The hills and waters o'er,
When a band of exiles moored their bark
On the wild New England shore.

"Amidst the storm they sang,
And the stars heard and the sea,
* * * * *

They shook the depth of the desert gloom
With their hymns of lofty cheer.

"What sought they thus afar?
Bright jewels of the mine?
The wealth of seas, the spoils of war?
They sought a faith's pure shrine.

"Aye, call it holy ground,
The soil which first they trod;
They left unstained what there they found,
Freedom to worship God."

Among the many things for which we should be thankful, there is nothing for which we may be more truly thankful than this,—
"Freedom to worship God." It is the most inviolable right of man; a right for which the strong arm of God has been bared more